



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A-570-601]

#### **Tapered Roller Bearings and Parts Thereof, Finished and Unfinished, from the People's Republic of China: Notice of Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review**

**AGENCY:** Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) is initiating a changed circumstances review (CCR) to determine if Stemco Vehicle Technology (Suzhou) Co., Ltd. (Stemco) is the successor-in-interest to GGB Bearing Technology (Suzhou) Co., Ltd. (GGB) in the context of the antidumping duty (AD) order on tapered roller bearings and parts thereof, finished and unfinished (TRBs) from the People's Republic of China (China). We preliminarily determine that Stemco is the successor-in-interest to GGB.

**DATES:** Applicable [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alex Wood or Andrew Hart AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1959 or (202) 482-1058, respectively.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### Background

On June 15, 1987, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* the AD order on TRBs from China.<sup>1</sup> On November 14, 2022, Stemco requested that Commerce conduct an expedited changed circumstances review, pursuant to section 751(b)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), 19 CFR 351.216, and 19 CFR 351.221(c)(3), to confirm that Stemco is the

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<sup>1</sup> See *Antidumping Duty Order; Tapered Roller Bearings and Parts Thereof, Finished or Unfinished, from the People's Republic of China*, 52 FR 22667 (June 15, 1987), as amended by *Tapered Roller Bearings from the People's Republic of China; Amendment to Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order in Accordance with Decision Upon Remand*, 55 FR 6669 (February 26, 1990) (*Order*).

successor-in-interest to GGB for the purposes of determining AD cash deposits and liabilities.<sup>2</sup>

In its submission, Stemco notes that, in 2022, the Timken Company (the petitioner) purchased GGB's main business but transferred the TRBs production and selling division to Stemco.<sup>3</sup>

### Scope of the *Order*

Merchandise covered by the *Order* are tapered roller bearings and parts thereof, finished and unfinished, from China; flange, take up cartridge, and hanger units incorporating tapered roller bearings; and tapered roller housings (except pillow blocks) incorporating tapered rollers, with or without spindles, whether or not for automotive use. These products are currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) item numbers 8482.20.00, 8482.91.00.50, 8482.99.15, 8482.99.45, 8483.20.40, 8483.20.80, 8483.30.80, 8483.90.20, 8483.90.30, 8483.90.80, 8708.70.6060, 8708.99.2300, 8708.99.4850, 8708.99.6890, 8708.99.8115, and 8708.99.8180. Although the HTSUS item numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of the *Order* is dispositive.

### Initiation and Preliminary Results of CCR

Pursuant to section 751(b)(1) of the Act, Commerce will conduct a CCR upon receipt of information concerning or a request from an interested party for a review of an AD order that shows changed circumstances sufficient to warrant a review of the order. The information Stemco submitted supporting its claim that it is the successor-in-interest to GGB demonstrates changed circumstances sufficient to warrant such a review.<sup>4</sup> Therefore, in accordance with section 751(b)(1)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.216(d) and (e), we are initiating a CCR based upon the information contained in Stemco's submission.

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<sup>2</sup> See Stemco's Letter, "Stemco's Request for a Changed Circumstances Review in Tapered Roller Bearings from the People's Republic of China, Case No. A-570-601," dated November 14, 2022 (CCR Request).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 4.

<sup>4</sup> See 19 CFR 351.216(d).

Section 351.221(c)(3)(ii) of Commerce's regulations permits Commerce to combine the notice of initiation of a CCR and the notice of preliminary results if Commerce concludes that expedited action is warranted.<sup>5</sup> In this instance, because the record contains information necessary to make a preliminary finding, we find that expedited action is warranted and have combined the notice of initiation and the notice of preliminary results.<sup>6</sup>

In this CCR, pursuant to section 751(b) of the Act, Commerce conducted a successor-in-interest analysis. In making a successor-in-interest determination, Commerce examines several factors, including, but not limited to, changes in the following: (1) management; (2) production facilities; (3) supplier relationships; and (4) customer base.<sup>7</sup> While no single factor or combination of factors will necessarily provide a dispositive indication of a successor-in-interest relationship, Commerce generally will consider the new company to be the successor to the previous company if the new company's resulting operation is not materially dissimilar to that of its predecessor.<sup>8</sup> Thus, if the record evidence demonstrates that, with respect to the production and sale of the subject merchandise, the new company operates as the same business entity as the predecessor company, Commerce may assign the new company the cash deposit rate of its predecessor.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> See 19 CFR 351.221(c)(3)(ii); see also *Certain Pasta from Italy: Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 80 FR 33480, 33480-41 (June 12, 2015) (*Pasta from Italy Preliminary Results*), unchanged in *Certain Pasta from Italy: Final Results of Changed Circumstances Review*, 80 FR 48807 (August 14, 2015) (*Pasta from Italy Final Results*).

<sup>6</sup> See, e.g., *Pasta from Italy Preliminary Results*, 80 FR 33480-41, unchanged in *Pasta from Italy Final Results*, 80 FR 48807.

<sup>7</sup> See, e.g., *Ball Bearings and Parts Thereof from France: Final Results of Changed-Circumstances Review*, 75 FR 34688 (June 18, 2010), and accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum at Comment 1; and *Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from India: Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 81 FR 75376 (October 31, 2016) (*Shrimp from India Preliminary Results*), unchanged in *Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from India: Notice of Final Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 81 FR 90774 (December 15, 2016) (*Shrimp from India Final Results*).

<sup>8</sup> See, e.g., *Shrimp from India Preliminary Results*, 81 FR 75377, unchanged in *Shrimp from India Final Results*, 81 FR 90774.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*; see also *Notice of Final Results of Changed Circumstances Antidumping Duty Administrative Review: Polychloroprene Rubber from Japan*, 67 FR 58, 59 (January 2, 2002); *Ball Bearings and Parts Thereof from France: Final Results of Changed-Circumstances Review*, 75 FR 34688, 34689 (June 18, 2010); and *Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe from the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 63 FR 14679 (March 26, 1998), unchanged in *Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe from Korea: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 63 FR 20572 (April 27, 1998) (in which Commerce found that a company which only changed its name and did not change its operations is a successor-in-interest to the company before it changed its name).

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.216, we preliminarily determine that Stemco is the successor-in-interest to GGB. Record evidence that Stemco submitted indicates that it operates as essentially the same business entity as GGB with respect to the subject merchandise.<sup>10</sup>

For our complete successor-in-interest analysis, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>11</sup> A list of the topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as the appendix to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

Commerce will issue its final results of the review in accordance with the time limits set forth in 19 CFR 351.216(e).

#### Public Comment

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(ii), interested parties may submit case briefs not later than 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed no later than seven days after the case briefs, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.309(d). Parties who submit case or rebuttal briefs are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) a statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.<sup>12</sup> All comments are to be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the established deadline.<sup>13</sup> Note that Commerce has temporarily modified

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<sup>10</sup> See CCR Request.

<sup>11</sup> See Memorandum, "Initiation and Preliminary Results of Changed Circumstances Review," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

<sup>12</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2).

<sup>13</sup> See 19 CFR 351.303(b).

certain of its requirements for serving documents containing business proprietary information, until further notice.<sup>14</sup>

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request via ACCESS within 30 days of publication of this notice. Hearing requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of issues to be discussed. Oral presentations at the hearing will be limited to issues raised in the briefs. If a request for a hearing is made, parties will be notified of the time and date for the hearing, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.310(d).

Consistent with 19 CFR 351.216(e), we will issue the final results of this CCR no later than 270 days after the date on which this review was initiated, or within 45 days if all parties agree to our preliminary finding.

This notice is published in accordance with sections 751(b)(1) and 777(i) of the Act and 351.221(b) and 351.221(c)(3).

**Dated:** December 27, 2022.

**Lisa W. Wang,**  
*Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

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<sup>14</sup> See *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to Covid-19; Extension of Effective Period*, 85 FR 41363 (July 10, 2020).

## **Appendix**

### **List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum**

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the *Order*
- IV. Initiation and Preliminary Results of Changed Circumstances Review
- V. Successor-in-Interest Determination
- VI. Recommendation

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